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# Excelsior

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## 2 non-local labourers injured

**Excelsior Correspondent**  
SRINAGAR, Nov 12: Two non-local labourers were injured in militants firing in the Rakk Moomin area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district this evening.

A police official said that this evening militants fired upon two non-local labourers. Both have received bullet wounds and were shifted to nearby hospital for treatment.

They have been identified as Prasad and Govind, both residents of Uttar Pradesh. Their condition is stated to be out of danger.

## 66 pc turnout in HP polls

**SHIMLA, Nov 12:** Himachal Pradesh recorded a voter turnout of nearly 66 per cent today, the Election Commission said citing provisional polling figures till 5 pm for the assembly elections, a crucial test for the BJP hoping to beat precedent and return to power as well as for the Congress looking for electoral revival.

From capital Shimla to the icy heights of Spiti, people across the state voted braving cold and in the higher reaches of mountains trudging through snow to elect a new state

(Contd on page 4 Col 5)

## Farooq meets Akhilesh

**Excelsior Correspondent**  
JAMMU, Nov 12: National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah today met Samajwadi Party national president Akhilesh Yadav at Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh and conveyed

## ■ Pic on page 4

condolences on the death of his father Mulayam Singh Yadav. In a brief chat with media persons after meeting Akhilesh, Farooq said he had come to Lucknow to condole death of Mulayam Singh Yadav and pay tribute to Netaji.

"Anything about making (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

## BJP substantiating EC's independence: Mehbooba

**Excelsior Correspondent**  
SRINAGAR, Nov 12: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti today accused the BJP of subverting the Election

## \*Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

Commission to an extent that it was no more an independent body.

She alleged that the Election Commission has become "an extension" of the BJP. "It will do whatever the BJP tells it to do."

(Contd on page 4 Col 3)

## Tremors in Delhi, NCR, Uttarakhand

**NEW DELHI/DEHRADUN, Nov 12:**

Tremors were felt in Delhi-NCR and some other Northern States on Saturday night as a 5.4-magnitude earthquake struck Nepal, 212 km southeast of Joshimath in Uttarakhand, officials said.

The region shook again at 7.57 pm, three days after a 6.3-magnitude earthquake epicentred in Nepal left six people dead in the neighbouring country.

This is the third earthquake to hit Nepal in a week.

An IMD official said the quake originated in Nepal at a

(Contd on page 4 Col 7)

## WEATHER

**JAMMU:**  
Mainly dry  
**TEMPERATURE**  
Max: 27.4 Degree C  
Min: 10.2 Degree C  
**RELATIVE HUMIDITY**  
RH-I (Morning): 83.0 per cent  
RH-II (Evening): 59.0 per cent  
Sunset on Saturday: 05:33 p.m.  
Sunrise on Sunday: 07:00 a.m.

**SRINAGAR:**  
Mainly dry  
**TEMPERATURE**  
Max: 16.0 Degree C  
Min: 1.2 Degree C  
**RELATIVE HUMIDITY**  
RH-I (Morning): 94.0 per cent  
RH-II (Evening): 56.0 per cent

**LEH:**  
**TEMPERATURE**  
Max: 8.0 Degree C  
Min: -8.3 Degree C

'PM fulfilled people's aspirations'

# J&K marching forward on path to progress: LG

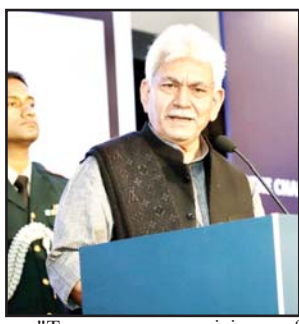
**Excelsior Correspondent**

**NEW DELHI, Nov 12:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha delivered the keynote address at The Chanakya Dialogues organized by Chanakya Forum here today.

Speaking on the change J&K is witnessing in the past three years, Sinha said, the progress of Jammu Kashmir has been the top priority and commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"A sea of change can be witnessed after August 2019. Abrogation of Article 370 marked the beginning of a new era of peace & progress in J&K and removed social disparities. Efforts of the Prime Minister have nurtured and fulfilled people's aspirations", he said.

"J&K is on the move and full of self-confidence. It is marching forward on the path to progress", the Lt Governor observed.



"Temporary provision of Articles 370 & 35A restricted the growth. For a very long time, discrimination was normalized. Separatism, terrorism, corruption and dynastic politics had disempowered the common citizen", he added.

**Terminology equal rights and social justice as the bedrock of any civilised society in democracy, the Lt Governor said that equitable progress of all sections of society was an exception before 2019. "In the**

last three years, we have removed the obstacles created by some vested interests on the path of socio-economic progress", he added.

"We have accelerated and broadened our development process in every sector. Our youth are contributing to nation-building. Every section of society is receiving equal opportunity to grow & contribute to J&K's prosperity", he said.

"Development and dreams of youth can be fulfilled only in conditions of peace, and we have made sustained efforts to establish peace and support to young men and women in building a bright future for themselves", Sinha said.

He said there was a time when Pulwama used to be in the news for all the wrong reasons, but today Pulwama has become the top-performing district and is emerging as the new business

& innovation hub of Kashmir Valley.

He said that the Government is extending necessary hand-holding and providing every possible support to the talented youth of the UT and making them a partner in J&K's developmental journey.

"Jammu Kashmir has been ranked top performer in developing a strong startup ecosystem. The industrial sector in the UT of J&K is growing to new heights with massive investment proposals. The development projects in the districts are being taken up in consultation with people to ensure their needs are fulfilled on priority", said the Lt Governor.

General Manoj Pande, Chief of the Army Staff; Major Gaurav Arya (Reid), Editor-in-Chief, Chanakya Forum; experts and security analysts and prominent personalities were present on the occasion.

## No reduction in strength of Chinese troops in Eastern Ladakh: Army Chief

**NEW DELHI, Nov 12:**

The situation in eastern Ladakh is "stable but unpredictable", Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande said on Saturday amid the over 30-month standoff between the Indian and Chinese troops in the high-altitude region.

In an address at a think-tank, Gen Pande said the focus of the next round of military talks would be to resolve issues at the two remaining friction points, seen as a reference to Demchok and Depsang in that region.

The Army chief also said that there has been no reduction in the strength of the Chinese troops at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the region though there are indications of the return of some of the PLA brigades with the onset of winter as they came for collective training.

Gen Pande, in his remarks at the 'Chanakya Dialogues', pitched for "very carefully calibrated" actions on the LAC to be

### Focus in talks to be on resolving remaining issues

able to safeguard India's interests and sensitivities.

"If I have to describe it (situation) in a single sentence, then I will say that the situation is stable but unpredictable," Gen Pande said, replying to a question.

On China's infrastructure development along the LAC in eastern Ladakh, the Army Chief said it is going on "unabated" and that they are constructing helipads, airfields and roads right up to the passes.

**"One of the notable developments has been the G695 highway which is parallel to the LAC which will give them the ability not only to move forces forward but also switch forces from one sector to another," he said.**

"As far as our preparations are concerned, our transition to

the winter posture is currently underway. But we have also made sure that we have adequate forces and adequate reserves to be able to deal with any contingency," he added.

"But in the larger context, we need to very carefully calibrate our actions on the LAC to be able to safeguard both our interests and sensitivities yet be prepared to deal with all types of contingencies," the Army Chief noted.

There has been no progress yet on resolving the standoff in the Demchok and Depsang regions though the two sides withdrew troops from a number of friction points following a series of military and diplomatic talks.

"You are aware of the ongoing talks right at the political, diplomatic and military levels which have been going on

between the two sides. Because of these talks, we have been able to find resolution in five out of the seven friction points which were on the table," Gen Pande said.

"It is for the remaining two friction points that we are attempting to find resolution," he noted.

Gen Pande noted that there was no reduction in the number of troops of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) in the region.

"As far as PLA's force levels are concerned, there has been no significant reduction," he said adding there are indications that some of their brigades, which have come for the purpose of collective training, are going back with the onset of winter.

"But on the LAC itself, there is no reduction of strength," he said.

The Chief of Army Staff also referred to last month's talks between the two sides under the

(Contd on page 4 Col 1)



**Tourist walks on Chinar leaves during the autumn season in Nishat Garden in Srinagar. -Excelsior/Shakeel**

## 'Modi Govt has zero tolerance policy towards terror'

# India suffers several forms of terrorism, financing for more than 3 decades: MHA

**Sanjeev Pargal**  
JAMMU, Nov 12: The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said today that India has suffered several forms of terrorism and its financing for over more than three decades and declared that Narendra Modi Government is committed to zero tolerance policy towards the terror menace.

The Home Ministry headed by Amit Shah said this in a statement ahead of hosting the third Ministerial Conference on "Countering Financing of Terrorism: No Money for Terror" which will be held in New Delhi on November 18 and 19.

"India has suffered several forms of terrorism and its financing over more than three decades. Hence, it understands pain and trauma of similarly impacted nations," the statement said.

As per the statement, Union Home Minister Amit Shah will participate in the conference and convey India's determination in its fight against terrorism.

It added that in order to display solidarity with peace-loving

Shah to convey India's determination to fight terror menace

nations and to help create a bridge for sustained cooperation on countering terror financing, India hosted two global events including the annual General Assembly of Interpol in Delhi and special session of the UN Counter Terrorism Committee in Mumbai and Delhi.

"The forthcoming NMFT conference will further enhance our efforts to build understanding and cooperation amongst nations," the statement said.

**The Modi Government is adopting a zero tolerance policy towards terrorism and will convey to the international community India's determination in its fight against the menace.**

"Globally, countries have been affected by terrorism and militancy for several years. The pattern of violence differs in most theatres, but is largely engendered by a tumultuous geo-political environment, coupled with prolonged armed sectarian conflicts", the statement said.

Such conflicts often lead to

poor governance, political instability, economic deprivation and large ungoverned spaces. The involvement of a compliant state often exacerbates terrorism, especially its financing.

The Ministry of Home Affairs said representatives of 75 countries and international bodies will participate in the deliberations over two days.

**Hosting of the NMFT conference shows the importance being given by the Modi Government to the issue of international terrorism as well as its zero tolerance policy against the menace and having discussions on this issue in the international community, the MHA statement said.**

The conference attempts to also set the pace for other high level official and political deliberations, focused on countering terrorist financing.

The conference aims to progress the discussions on combating terrorist financing held by the international community in the previous two

(Contd on page 4 Col 3)

## ■ 'People should come out of Govt job mindset'

# Modi Govt creating opportunities for youth: Dr Jitendra

**Avtar Bhat**

JAMMU, Nov 12: Maintaining that Modi Government can go to any extent in revolutionising the lives of Indian youth, Union Minister for PMO with independent charge of Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh today said, that Prime

## \*Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

Minister is creating opportunities to fulfil the aspirations of the country's youth.

Addressing an event of BJP's student wing ABVP here today, Dr Jitendra Singh regretted that for over seven decades the youth of India have suffered to get



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing an event organised by ABVP at Jammu on Saturday. -Excelsior/Rakesh

always remained in a confrontationalist mood.

But with the change of guard at Centre in 2014, youth must realise that present regime led by Modi is ready to go to any extent to channelize their energies to utilise them for making India the Vishwa Guru. "This Government has taken up various initiatives in this regard which included StartUp India and StandUp India," he said.

Maintaining that Indian youth is an aspirational youth, Dr Jitendra Singh said, Modi Government wants that the country's youth should come out of Government job mindset and instead of becoming job seekers they should become the

(Contd on page 4 Col 5)

## MeT forecasts rain, snow

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, Nov 12: Weatherman today forecast mainly dry weather in the next 24 hours and scattered to fairly widespread light rain and snow over the hills on November 13 and 14 in Kashmir.

The minimum temperature recorded a drop and most places with world famous skiing resort of Gulmarg recording a low of minus 4.0°C.

"Mainly dry weather is expected over Jammu and Kashmir during the next 24 hours while there is possibility of scattered to fairly widespread light rain, snowfall and thunder storm on November 13 and 14," a Meteorological department official said here.

Srinagar recorded a low of 1.2°C against 3.6°C the previous

(Contd on page 4 Col 1)

## Thousands attend AP rally in Srinagar

# Bukhari demands restoration of statehood, holding of polls

**Fayaz Bukhari**

SRINAGAR, Nov 12: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari today demanded the restoration of Statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and immediate holding of Assembly elections.

Bukhari said this while addressing the biggest rally held by any party in Srinagar post abrogation of Article 370 & 35(A) at Sher-e-Kashmir Park.

"The huge purpose of organising this huge public gathering is to urge Gol to restore the Statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and hold Assembly elections without any further delay. On this occasion, we want to remind the Government that it



Apni Party president Altaf Bukhari addressing a mega rally in Srinagar on Saturday. -Excelsior/Shakeel

added. Bukhari demanded holding of Assembly polls on priority basis so that people are empowered.

"Also, we demand holding of Assembly polls as soon as possible so that people, who have been rendered politically

(Contd on page 4 Col 3)

## 'We have to ensure end to bloodshed'

# Youth on wrong path be brought back for nation, J&K building: Azad

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, Nov 12: Democratic Azad Party (DAP) Chief and former Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad today said that the youth who are following the wrong path have to be brought back to the mainstream for building nation and Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking to a largely attended rally in the border town of Uri in North Kashmir district of Baramulla, Azad said that those who have taken to arms or drugs have to be brought back to the national mainstream for nation building.

"Those who followed the wrong path, be it drugs or guns,



DAP leader Ghulam Nabi Azad addressing a rally at Uri on Saturday.

have to be persuaded; we have to get them back for the building of J&K, for the service of their parents and the nation-building in general," he said.

"In the last 30 years, we have lost nearly one lakh people and we have to ensure that it ends; we have to make sure that no

one in the younger generation gets to see that again," he said.

The DAP chief said that unemployment has led to drug addiction which is destroying entire society in J&K. "This is the reason that the youth of Kashmir are drawn towards drug

(Contd on page 4 Col 1)